

9/02/17 Akema Update, as of 1705:

On September 2, 2017, white smoke was observed emitting from the one of the remaining 6 trailers of peroxide. EPA's aerial reconnaissance aircraft (ASPECT) continued to make fly over the Arkema facility about every 10 to 15 minutes. Instruments detected emissions of peroxide. During each smoke emission event the ground air monitoring outside the 1.5-mile exclusion zone indicated non-detect for the contaminants of concern. At approximately 7:30pm, the Responsible Party, in consultation with Unified Command, decided to manually ignite the remaining peroxide trailers. However, just prior to initiation of the manual ignition operation, the plan was cancelled. The remaining trailers began emitting smoke again, making the operation unsafe. At 1326 the air crew from the sheriff department performed an overflight and noticed that a yellow liquid material had spill from several of the trailers, apparently from the stored material continue to react due to the increase temperature but not enough to ignite.

- 1.5-mile radius evacuation still in effect.

- ASPECT recent flyover photos indicate that flood waters within the facility have receded almost completely.